

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-8 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider her rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Power of Attorney

A Revocation of Power of Attorney, Substitute Power of Attorney, and Change in Correspondence Address, together with a Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b), are attached hereto.

It is respectfully requested that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office update their records to reflect the new attorney and correspondence address of record, to ensure that future correspondence is forwarded to the undersigned.

Rejections under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen, U.S. Patent 6,350,209. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Shieh, U.S. Patent 6,299,549. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang, U.S. Publication 2005/0181890. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen et al., U.S. Publication 2005/0049074. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In regard to each of these references, the Examiner has pointed out the showing of a golf club head with a metal casing having an open end, and a striking plate which is bound to the

metal casing by way of a brazing material. Applicants submit that the present claims, as amended, are not anticipated by any of these references.

In the present invention, a shoulder is formed by extending either the striking plate or the metal casing outwardly beyond their joining areas so as to form a shoulder on which the brazing material may be placed before melting. This is not seen in the references. Claim 1 previously included the limitation that the brazing material was positioned “externally of and immediately adjacent said clearance.” Applicants submit that this limitation refers to the presence of the shoulder for placing the brazing material. However, Applicants have now amended claim 1 to make this formation of the shoulder using an extension part even more clear. Claim 1 now describes the extension part as being provided by either the casing or the striking plate and that the brazing material is positioned on the extension part. This clearly is not seen in any of the references cited by the Examiner. In some of the references, the brazing material or its equivalent is not even placed on the external portion of the striking plate or metal casing. Even in the references which show some form of the brazing material being present on the outer edge, there is no showing of the formation of an extension part in order to form the shoulder on which the brazing material is placed. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 1, as amended, defines over all of these references.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1 and, as such, are also considered to be allowable. In addition, these claims further recite other features of the invention which make them additionally allowable.

New claims 5-8 have been added which further describe the direction of the extension part and the formation of the shoulders. Applicants submit that these features are also clearly not shown in any of the references and, accordingly, these claims are additionally allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patent relied upon by the Examiner. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

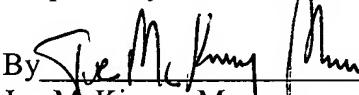
Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: December 27, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Joe McKinney Muncy
Registration No.: 32,334

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant